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53 Vintage Porn Movies That Are Totally Iconic

Don't worry—2069: A Sex Odyssey made the list.

(Image credit: Wakefield Poole + Konstantine + Quality X)

By Mehera Bonner
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There are many categories of porn movies (choose your own adventure, everyone!), but there's just something *special* about vintage movies from pornography's Golden Age. Also known as "porno chic" (a.k.a best nickname ever), this period in porn history began in 1969 with the release of Andy Warhol's *Blue Movie* and continued through roughly 1984. By the mid-'80s, seeing porn in theaters had become less popular, thanks to the rising popularity of VHS players. At this point, the porn industry turned away from striving to be art of any kind and started its journey to its current state: short, increasingly hardcore clips on Pornhub. But, back in the Golden Age, art was most definitely the goal. These films had higher budgets, higher production values, and intricate (honestly, sometimes a bit zany) plots.

Maybe it's the hair, maybe it's the grainy film, maybe it's the good acting, or maybe it's the fact that the plots are often completely and totally deranged. Whatever the x factor (or, should we say, "xxx factor"), vintage porn is a sometimes wonderful and often weird world, and these are the wildest and most iconic movies from the genre.

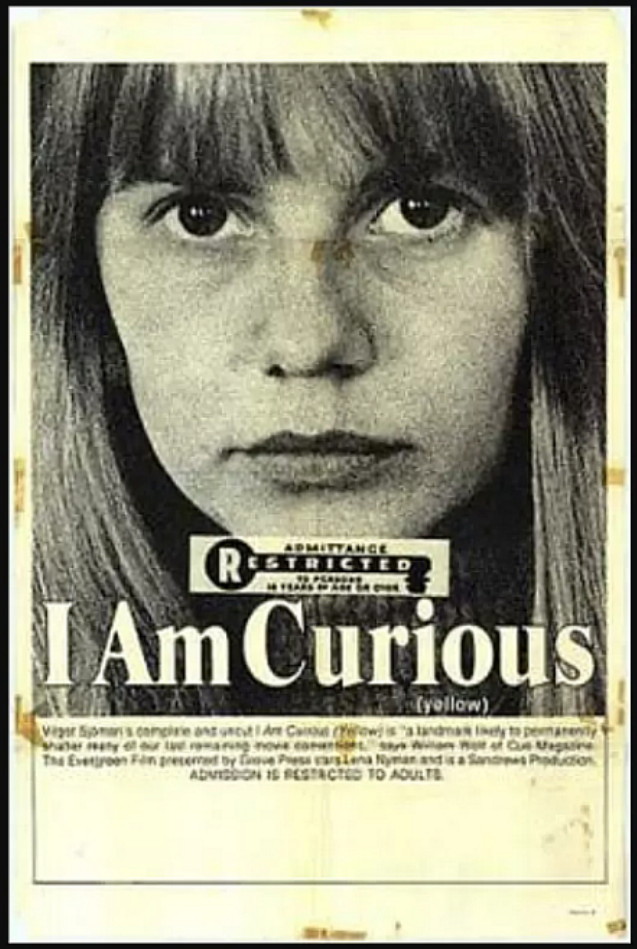
1. 'Score' (1974 film)

(Image credit: Wikimedia Commons)

'Score' is a 1974 porn cult classic that joins the niche likes of 'Deep Throat' and 'Behind the Green Door.' Directed by Radley Metzger, it's a "groovy" mixed doubles romp that has a shabby chic element, classic to the '70s. The film was originally based on an off-Broadway stage play that ran for 23 performances at the Martinique Theatre from October 28 through November 15, 1971 and featured Sylvester Stallone in a brief role (as telephone repairman Mike).

BUY IT

2. 'I Am Curious (Yellow)' (1967)

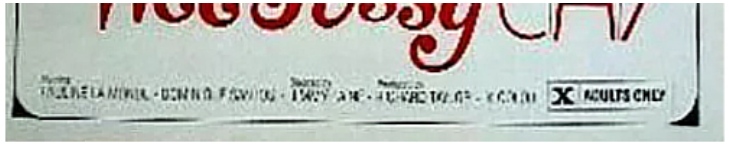


(Image credit: Wikimedia Commons)

This Swedish erotic film is definitely among the more niche on this list—but it's no less of a must-watch. The indie erotic film is directed by Vilgot Sjöman and stars Sjöman and Lena Nyman. It's a coming-of-age story about finding your sexuality, jealousy, betrayal, and drama. While it is extremely sexy—it is also beautifully acted and written. If you like a little beauty with your porn, this one is for you.

BUY IT

3. '9 Lives of a Wet Pussy' (1976)

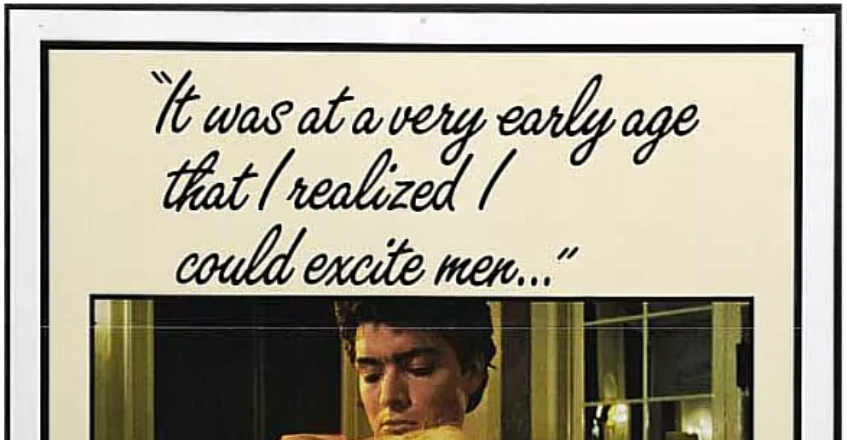


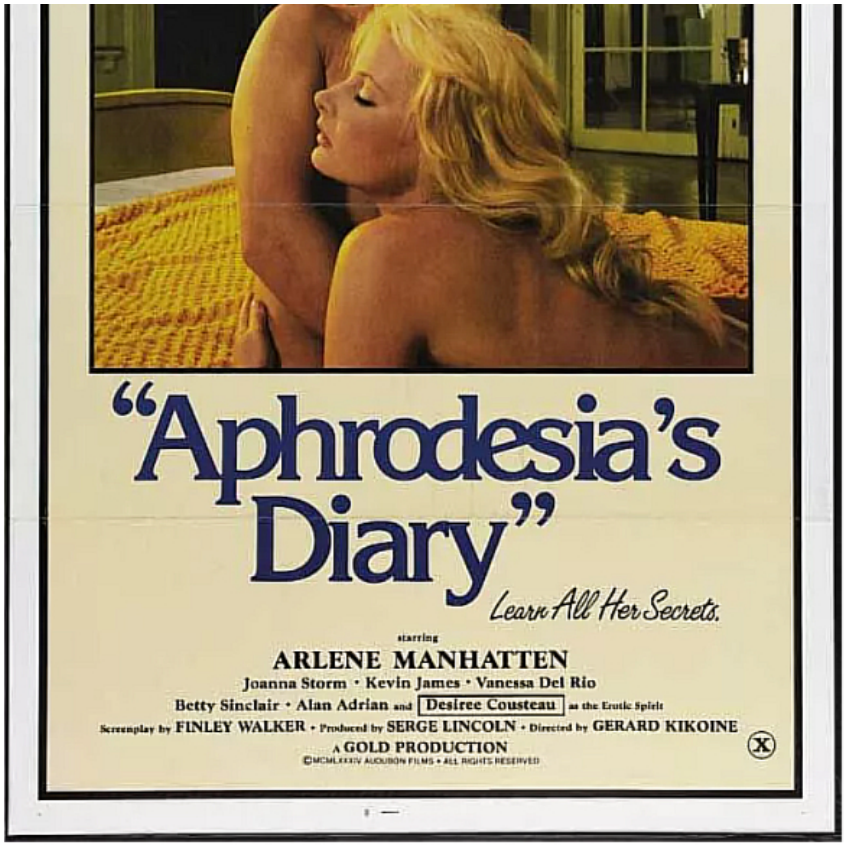
(Image credit: Navaron Films)

Released in 1976, this pornographic film was actually the first movie directed by controversial filmmaker Abel Ferrara—albeit under a pseudonym ("Nicholas George"). As for the plot, it focuses on Pauline, a wealthy, married New York heiress who sets out on a sexual adventure made up of encounters with several different people (aka the plot of 98 percent of porn from the '70s).

BUY IT

4. 'Aphrodesia's Diary' (1983)





(Image credit: Audubon Films)

This 1983 film is part of the Golden Age of Porn and tells the story of a woman named Adrianne, who reminisces about some of her greatest sexual exploits while reading her diary in a hotel room.

BUY IT

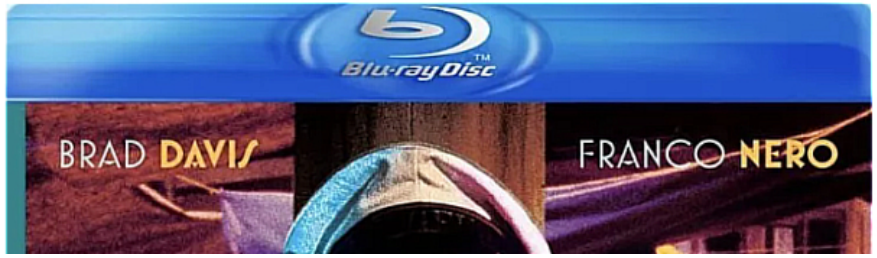
5. 'Through the Looking Glass' (1976)

(Image credit: 123)

'Through the Looking Glass' has been called "A Serious Breakthrough for the Artistic Treatment of Explicit Sex." The plot takes a rich socialite who finds herself in an unknown world where basically anything goes. Yes, that means there is a *lot* of sex and it goes from there. The film is directed by Jonas Middleton and stars Catharine Burgess, Jamie Gillis, and Laura Nicholson.

BUY IT

6. 'Querelle' (1982)

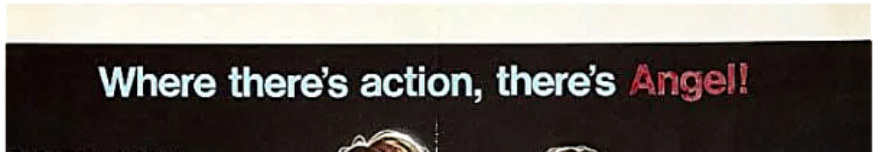


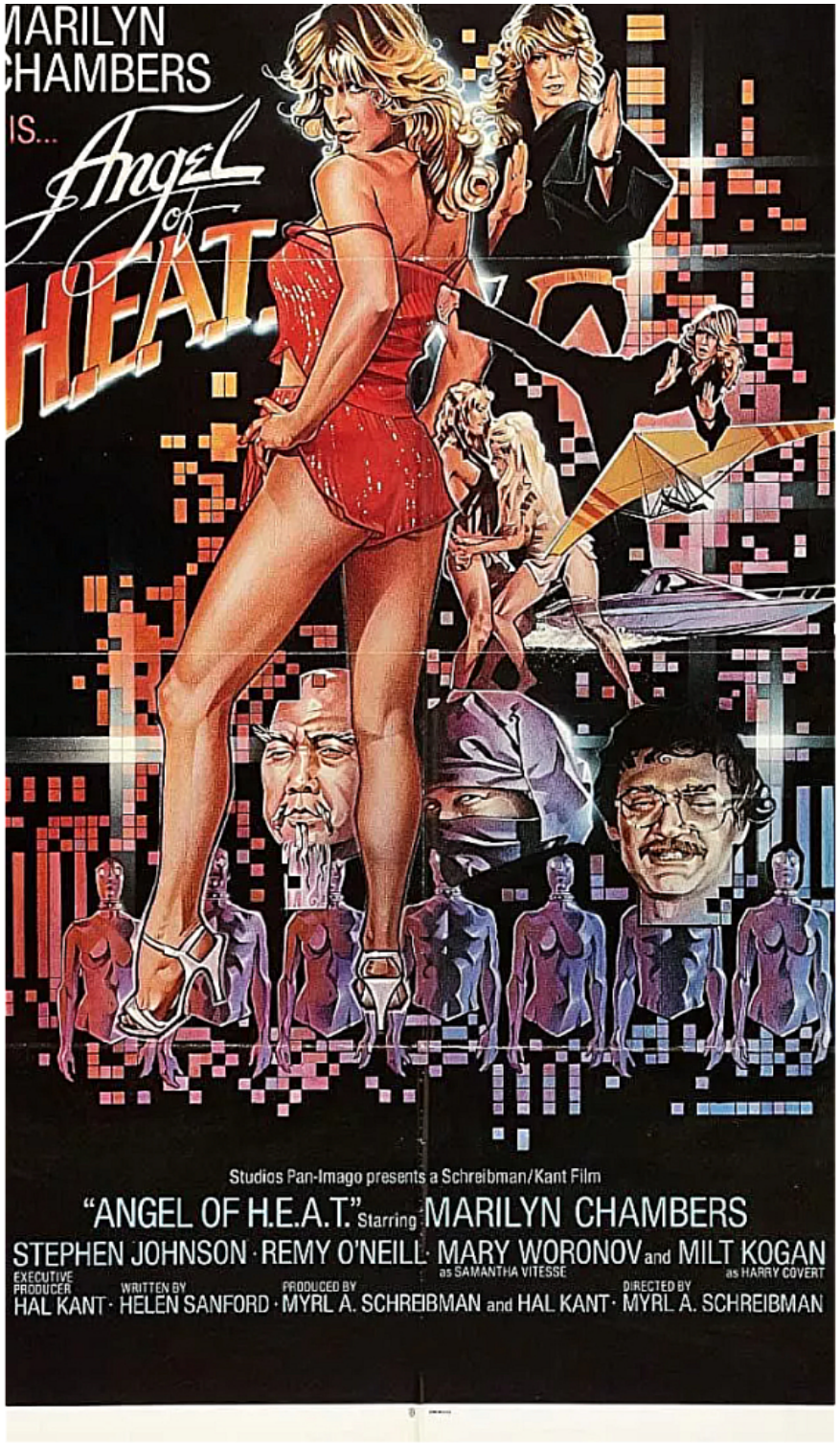
(Image credit: Amazon Prime)

'Querelle' is Rainer Werner Fassbinder's final film. While it is thought of as his most personal, it is also his most criticized due to its, um, content, and the moody Tom-of-Finland-inspired set design. The movie is originally based on Jean Genet's novel. While very sexy, it is also quite intimate and sad. Now, don't get us wrong, there are lots of fantastic scenes of homosexual sex, all behind the backdrop of a '80s romantic background. It feels a bit like a dream, but with lots of sex and plenty of ejaculating.

BUY IT

7. 'Angel of H.E.A.T.' (1983)



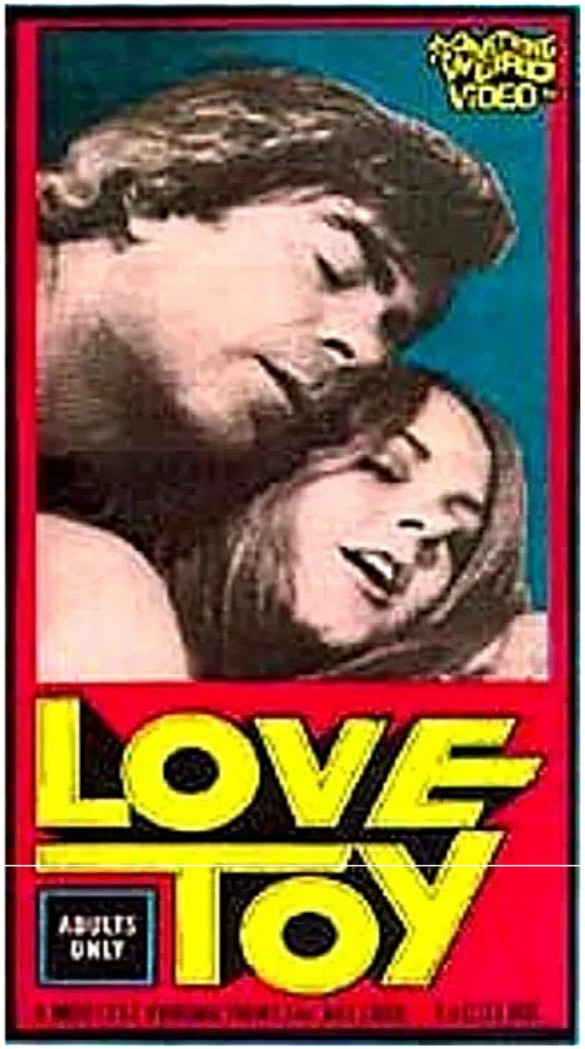


(Image credit: Monterey Video)

This 1983 soft-core sex comedy stars porn legend Marilyn Chambers and combined sci-fi action and sexy time.

BUY IT

8. 'Love Toy' (1968)



(Image credit: Doris Wishman)

This 1968 sexploitation film was directed by Doris Wishman (although she was credited as Louis Silverman for the film). In the movie, a man named Marcus loses everything he owns to a man named Alex in a very high-stakes game of Gin

Rummy. Alex offers to forgive the debt—for a night with Marcus' teenage daughter. The film gets increasingly weird before its final twist ending.

BUY IT

9. 'The Bite' (1966)

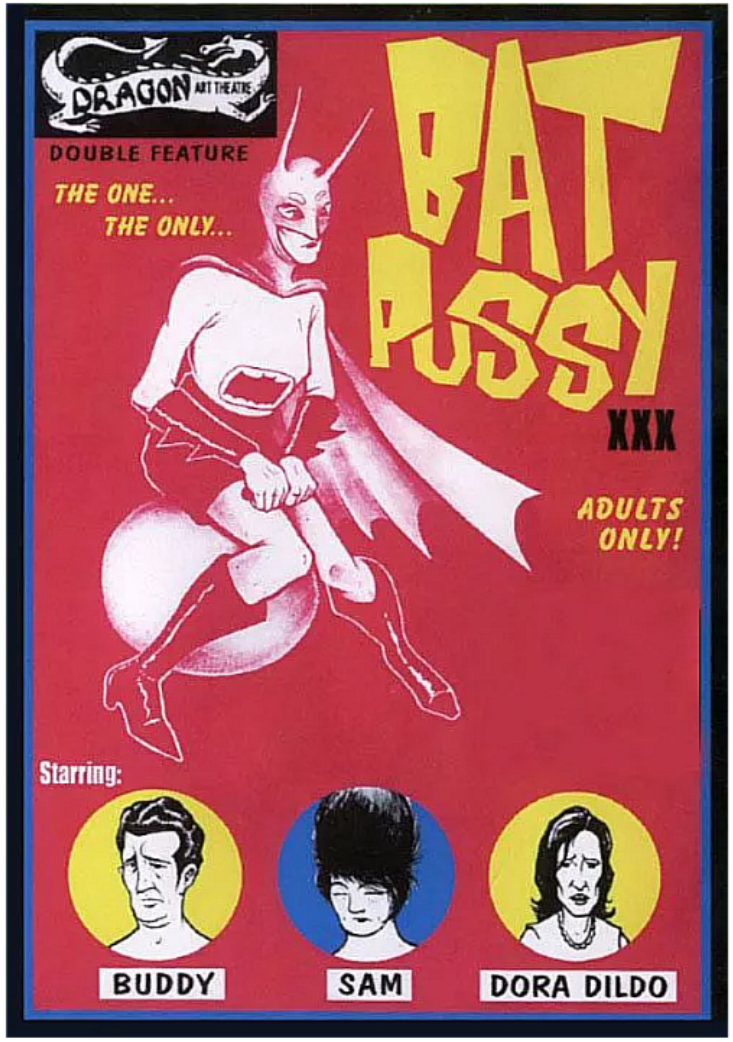
(Image credit: Olympic International Films)

This 1966 Japanese pink film is about a gigolo who rich, older women pay to

seduce young girls—while they watch the encounters from behind a two-way mirror. Eventually, the young man has enough and tries to break free, but that's easier said than done.

The film isn't readily available for purchase, but it's easy to watch online.

10. 'Bat Pussy' (1970s)



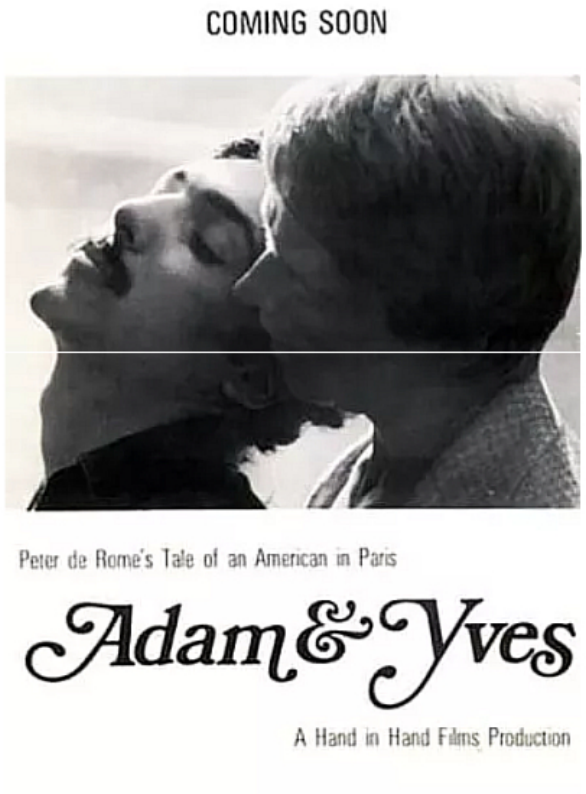
(Image credit: Something Weird Video)

Bat Pussy is thought to have been made during the early 1970s (although the *exact* time of its release and production isn't totally clear). The movie is a parody of the old *Batman* TV show and is quite possibly the first example of

pornographic parody ever. That distinction makes up for its less-flattering reputation as one of the worst porno movies ever made. Still, it's worth a watch.

BUY IT

11. 'Adam & Yves' (1974)

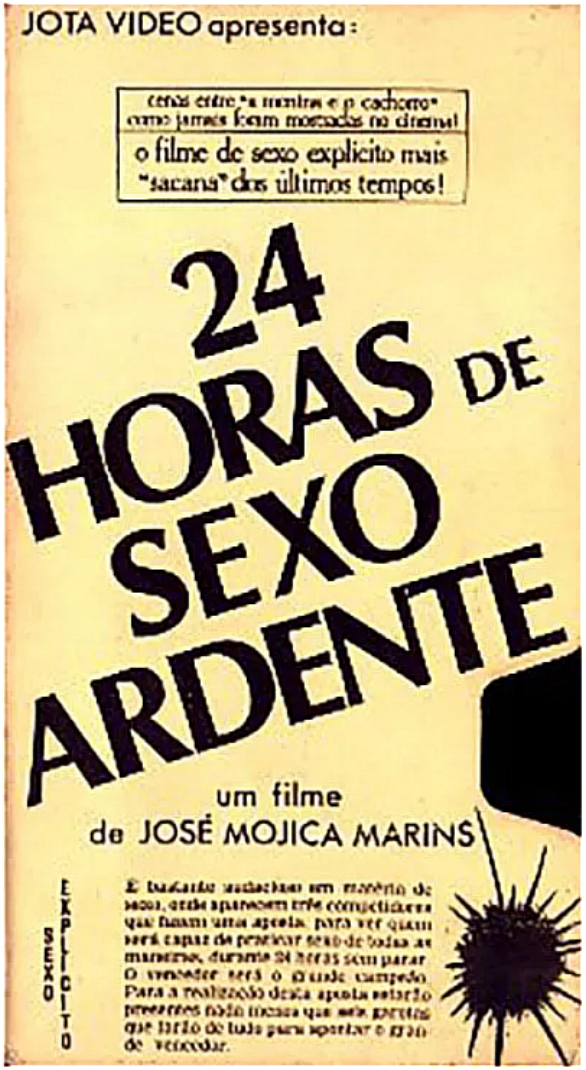


(Image credit: Hand In Hand Productions)

This 1974, X-rated film was geared toward gay male audiences and followed a French man named Yves and his pursuit of a an American, Adam in Paris. The movie was also notable for technically including the final screen appearance of film legend Greta Garbo, although the footage used in the film was unauthorized.

BUY IT

12. '24 Hours of Explicit Sex' (1985)

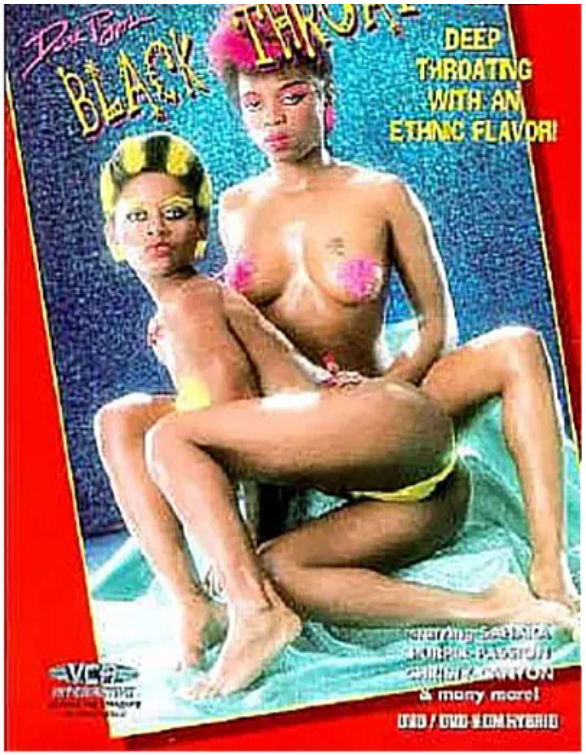


(Image credit: José Mojica Marins)

This 1985 sexploitation B-film from Brazilian director José Mojica Marins follows three men who bet on who can have sex with the most women in a 24-hour period. As you do.

The film isn't readily available for purchase, but it's easy to watch online.

13. 'Black Throat' (1985)



(Image credit: VCA Pictures)

This 1985 interracial pornographic movie was directed by Gregory Dark, who was one-half of the Dark Brothers team. The film has a controversial past. Traci Lords originally had the starring credit in the film, but investigators later discovered that she was underage during filming and her scenes were, of course, immediately removed from the film.

BUY IT

14. 'Banned Book: Flesh Futon' (1975)

(Image credit: Nikkatsu)

This 1975 Japanese pornographic film is part of Nikkatsu's *Roman porno* series and was based on a 17th-century Chinese erotic novel by Li Yu. The movie follows Mio, a struggling writer whose book, *Flesh Futon*, becomes a best-seller. With his success, Mio starts getting into the nightlife scene, only to find his luck change for the worse in every was imaginable.

The film isn't readily available for purchase, but it's easy to watch online.

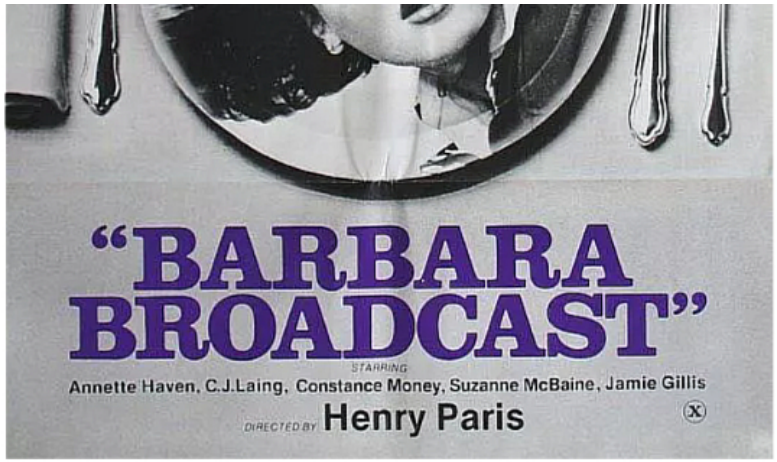
15. 'Come and Blow the Horn' (1978)

(Image credit: Gebe Film)

This Swedish porno from 1978 has a delightfully whimsical premise: A group of friends gather for a celebration on a small islet and find an ancient, magical viking horn that makes everyone who hears its sound incredibly, well, horny.

The film isn't readily available for purchase, but it's easy to watch online.

16. 'Barbara Broadcast' (1977)

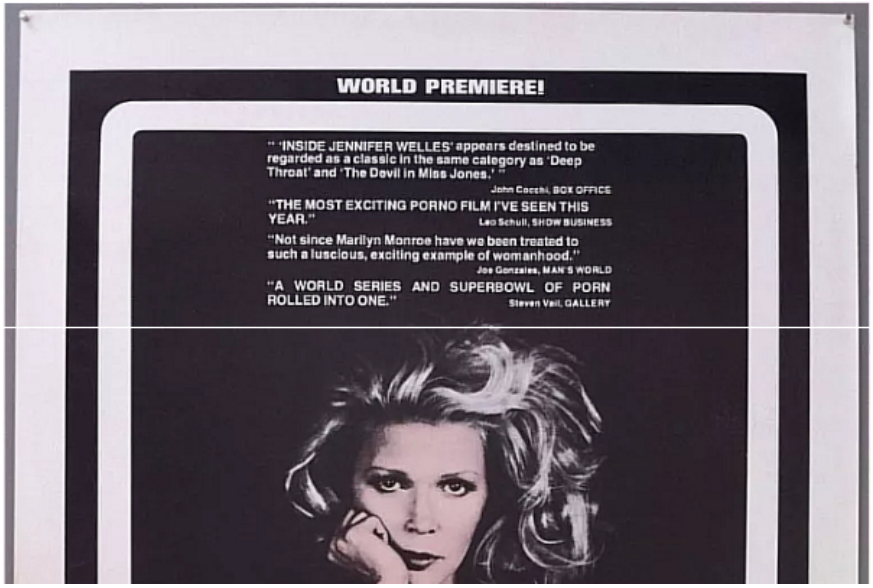


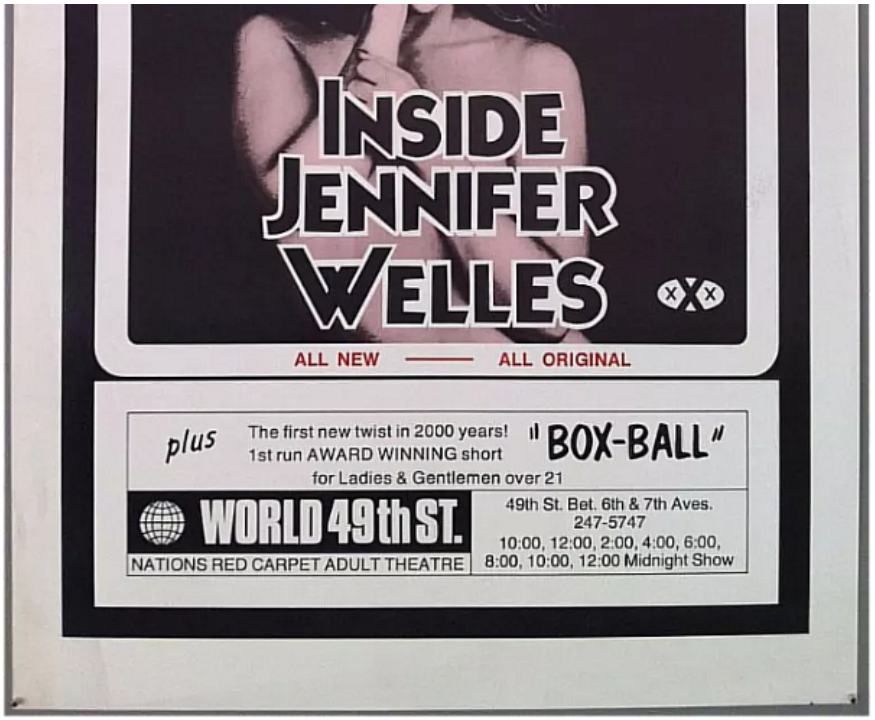
(Image credit: Audubon Films)

This movie's tagline—"a film in four courses"—perfectly sums up the delightfully quirky nature of films from the Golden Age of Porn. The titular Barbara Broadcast is a world-famous, best-selling author and the movie follows her as she's interviewed by a journalist for a piece about her impressive career. The interview goes down at an upscale restaurant in Manhattan and the menu includes amazing gourmet food *and* sexy activities.

BUY IT

17. 'Inside Jennifer Welles' (1977)



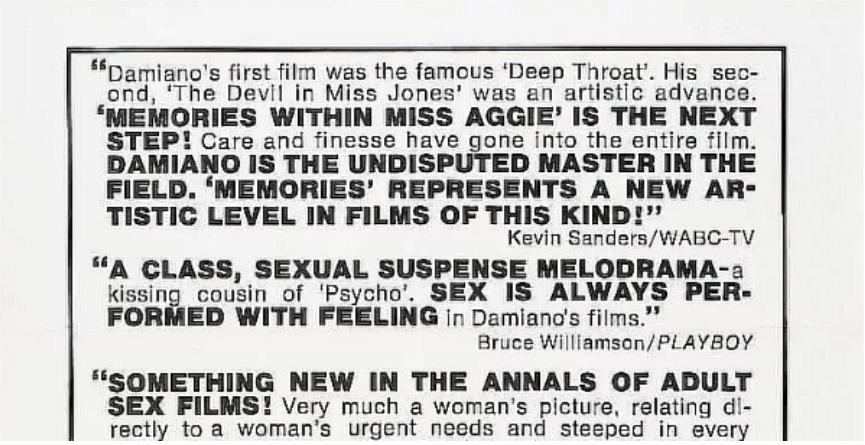


(Image credit: Evart Enterprises)

This allegedly autobiographical pornographic film is based on the life of real-life, famous porn actress Jennifer Welles (who also stars in the film and received a directing credit on the project).

BUY IT

18. 'Memories Within Miss Aggie' (1974)


"Damiano's first film was the famous 'Deep Throat'. His second, 'The Devil in Miss Jones' was an artistic advance. **'MEMORIES WITHIN MISS AGGIE' IS THE NEXT STEP!** Care and finesse have gone into the entire film. **DAMIANO IS THE UNDISPUTED MASTER IN THE FIELD. 'MEMORIES' REPRESENTS A NEW ARTISTIC LEVEL IN FILMS OF THIS KIND!"**
Kevin Sanders/WABC-TV

"A CLASS, SEXUAL SUSPENSE MELODRAMA-a kissing cousin of 'Psycho'. **SEX IS ALWAYS PERFORMED WITH FEELING** in Damiano's films."
Bruce Williamson/*PLAYBOY*

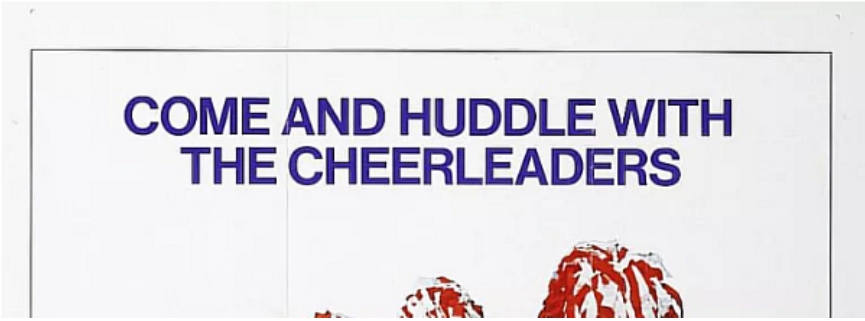
"SOMETHING NEW IN THE ANNALS OF ADULT SEX FILMS! Very much a woman's picture, relating directly to a woman's urgent needs and steeped in every

(Image credit: Inish Kae)

In this movie, the titular Miss Aggie tells the stories of her sexual past to her lover and the memories play out on screen for our viewing pleasure.

BUY IT

19. 'The Cheerleaders' (1973)

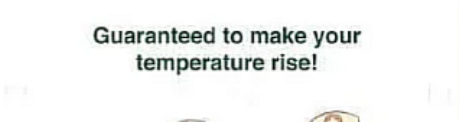


(Image credit: Cinemation Industries)

The plot of *The Cheerleaders* almost feels like a modern teen raunchy comedy. It's literally about a group of cheerleaders who have sex with the members of opposing football teams to tire the players out before games and make sure their own team wins. The movie spawned several sequels.

BUY IT

20. 'Candy Stripers' (1978)



(Image credit: Arrow Productions)

This '70s porno comedy is about the sexcapades candy stripers volunteering at a hospital have with the hospital's patients and staff. A going-away party for one volunteer on her last day on the job even turns into an orgy. Classic.

BUY IT

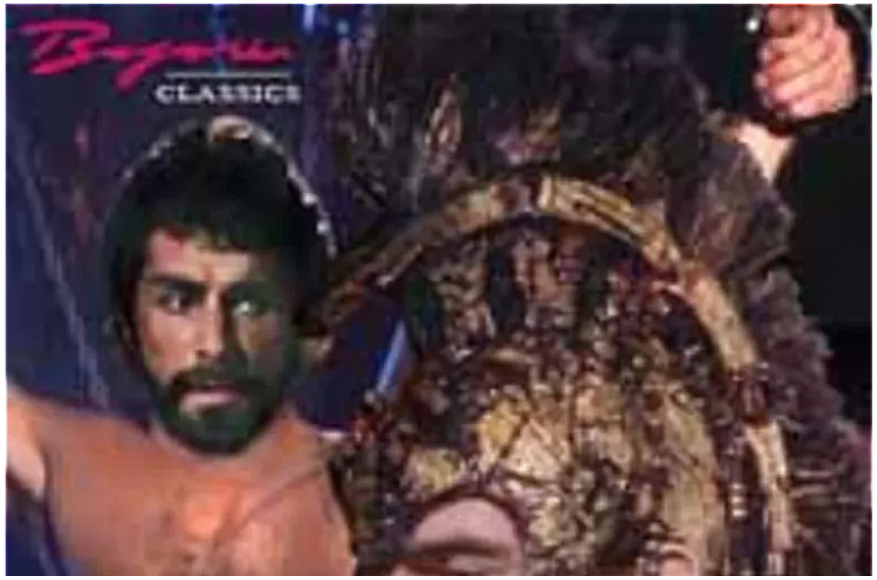
21. 'Kansas City Trucking Co.' (1976)

(Image credit: Joe Gage Films)

Kansas City Trucking Co. is the first film in Joe Gage's gay porn "Working Man Trilogy." It's a road movie and a porn movie—everything you could want.

BUY IT

22. 'Centurians of Rome' (1981)

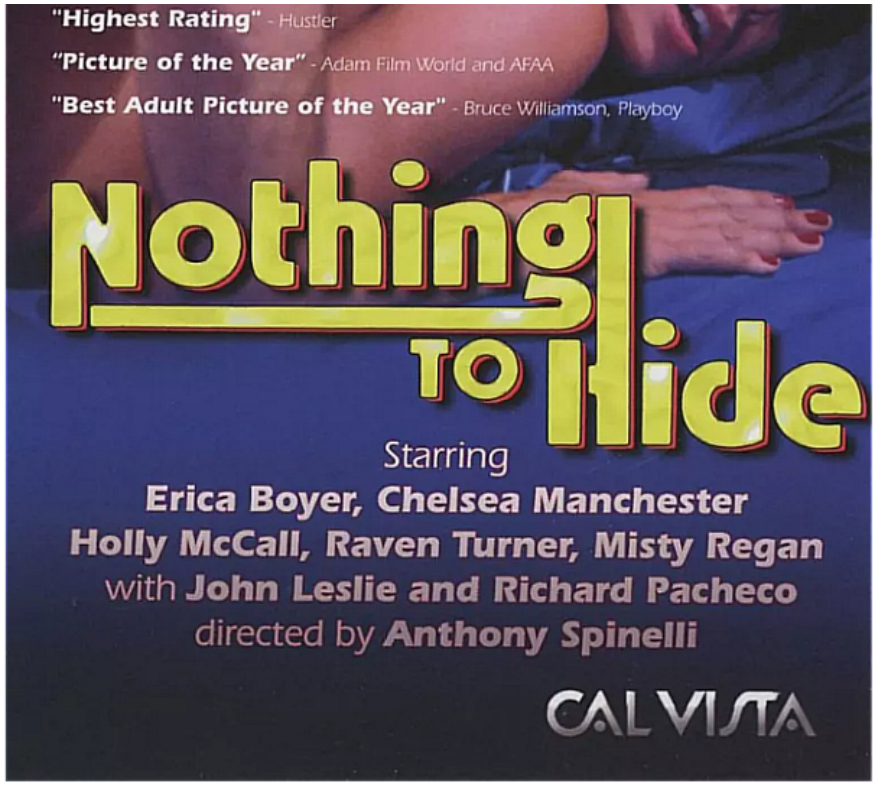


(Image credit: Bijou Video)

Centurians of Rome is one of the most expensive gay porn films of all time. It follows the lives of two Romans—Demetrius and Octavius—who are sold into slavery for not paying their taxes during Emperor Caligula's reign. And it's sexier than it sounds like a movie with that basic plot could be.

BUY IT

23. 'Nothing to Hide' (1981)

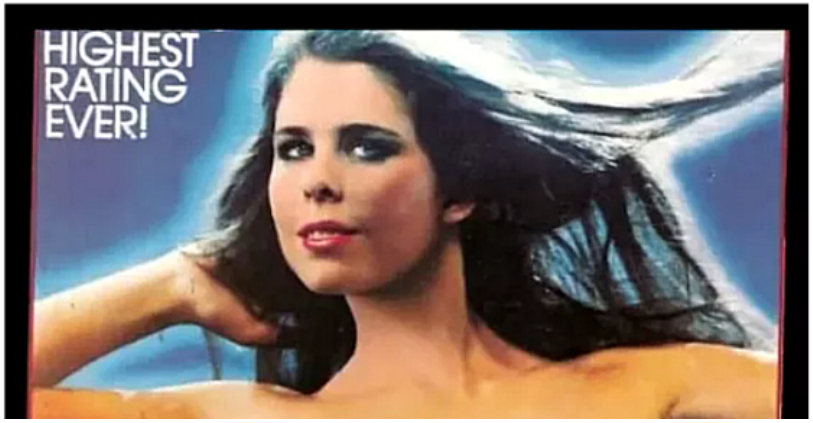


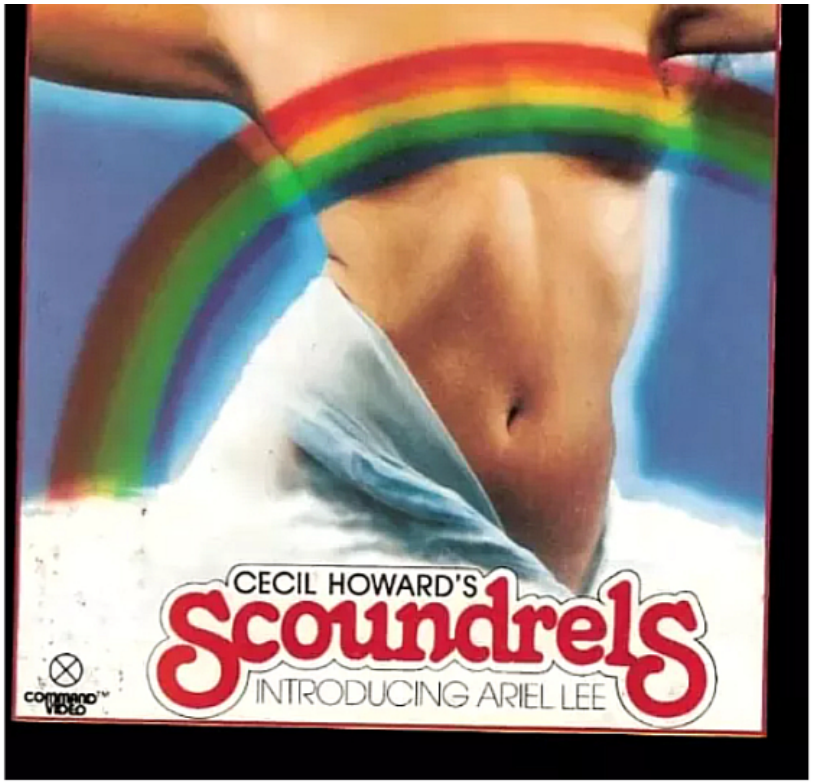
(Image credit: Amazon UK)

Nothing to Hide is lauded as having something most porn infamously lacks: good acting and a good story.

BUY IT

24. 'Scoundrels' (1982)





(Image credit: Command Video)

Scoundrels has the distinction of being the first film ever to win the AVN Best Picture Award. The movie, about a philandering psychiatrist, is also said to contain Ron Jeremy's best porn performance ever. So there's that.

BUY IT

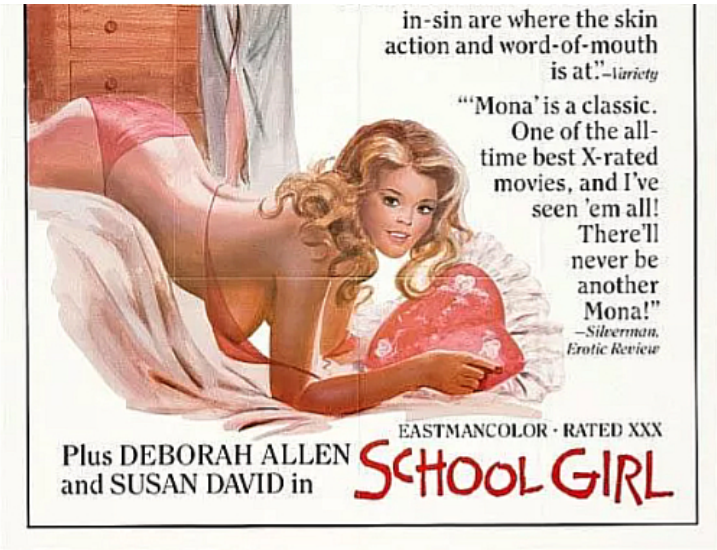
25. 'Roommates' (1981)

(Image credit: Amazon)

Roommates has been called the first mainstream porn film from a female perspective, which makes it worth a watch in and of itself, right?

BUY IT

26. 'Mona the Virgin Nymph' (1970)

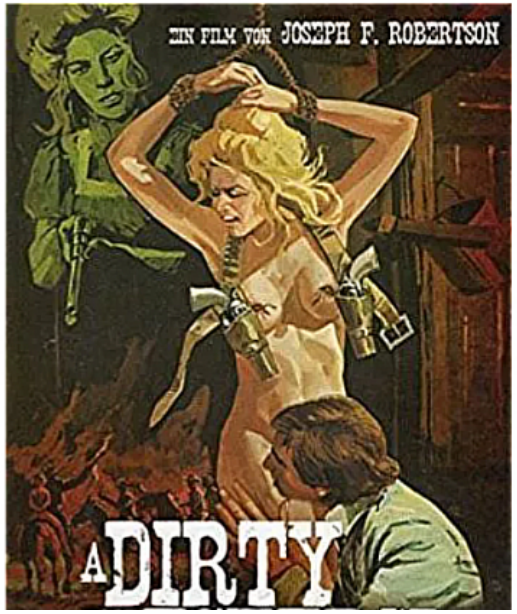


(Image credit: Graffiti Productions)

If the Madonna-Whore Complex was a movie, it would literally be this. Mona is a sexual woman, but she's promised her mother that she'll stay a virgin until marriage. Which means that if you're very into watching oral, you're in for a treat.

The film isn't readily available for purchase, but it's easy to watch online.

27. 'A Dirty Western' (1975)

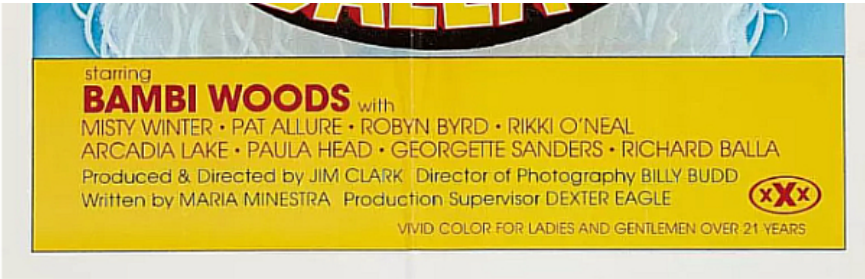


(Image credit: Realité)

We're not saying this movie paved the way for *Westworld*, but it *is* set in a Western town where people can't seem to stop doing it. It's also one of the few Western pornos made.

The film isn't readily available for purchase, but it's easy to watch online.

28. 'Debbie Does Dallas' (1978)



(Image credit: VCX)

Debbie Does Dallas is the classic story of a small town girl who dreams of making it as a professional cheerleader. When her parents won't foot the bill to send her to Dallas for an audition, Debbie and her cheerleader friends start a sex service to pay for the trip. As you do.

BUY IT

29. Insatiable (1980)